

William Dare came to this
Country in or prior to
1682. He left estates in
Dorset and Somersetshire,
England. His wife's name
was Constant. They had
six children. Wm Dare
was Sheriff of Salem Co
in 1703 - (Look at another page)

Benoni Dare - Ensign - Capt
John Barkers Company -
2nd Regiment Cumberland Co
Militia - Jan - 10th 1777 -
Benoni Dare Express Rider for
General Hancock Bury. Mallett
Received pay for four days
service @ 3.00 a day - April 9th 1778.

It is probable that Capt
William Dare built the
first house in Phila -
Called the Blue Anchor
Inn at which Mr Penn
stopped on his first visit
to America (See Phila Ledger
Dec 26th 1878). He held
various offices of trust and
honor - was officer of
Colonial troops, judge of
the Court and was licensed
to practice law.

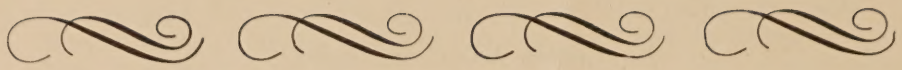
He also was High Sheriff
of Salem Co - in 1703 -

(I jotted down about Sarah Dare
because she became my
several times great-grandmother.)

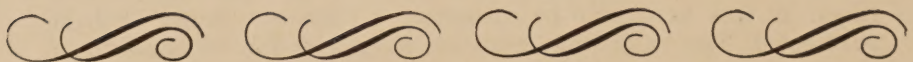
Sheriff

William Dare had son
Benoni who died in 1770 -
Benoni was the father of
Elkanah Dare who died
before his father, Elkanah
died in 1759 - his will
was pr. April 24th 1759 -
Elkanah had a daughter
Sarah who married Uriah
Bacon one of the pillars of
the Cohausen Baptist
Church. Elkanah had a
son Benoni who
married Damaris Kelsey (621)
and 2nd - Rachel Shephard.

I infer Damaris Kelsey was
the minister's daughter. The
minister of the Cohausen Baptist Church
was Robert Kelsey.



Story of Greenwich



*Every day has its twilight,
Every year has its December,
Every life has its evening
When its given to remember.*

For the sake of my grandchildren and the other children who may enjoy the stories of old Greenwich, I am tucking some of them down this beautiful summer morning in 1950.

It was just two hundred and seventy-five years ago that a vessel, bearing John Fenwick and his friends, sailed up an unknown creek searching for a peaceful home in an unknown land. It must have been a beautiful Fall morning for it was October. The great trees must have been covered with leaves of gorgeous hues, the birds singing and soft winds blowing. After the strenuous journey of two and a half months across the great and turbulent Atlantic Ocean we can well imagine how happily the men, women and little children rested in this much desired land. John Fenwick felt the beauty of it all and he exclaimed "I will call this place, Salem, the city of peace."

Fenwick knew the need of both peace of soul and of body for he was a Quaker. Because of that religious belief he had spent a year in horrible jails in England, where the Quakers were being persecuted unmercifully.

While John Fenwick was in England he had sold land in this new world. He had said "When I reach the country to which I am going I will buy the land peacefully from the Indians." This he did. He did not pay money as we know it, but the things the Indians might like to wear and use. Fenwick had no trouble with the Indians. There is not even a record of a complaint from one of them. They must have considered him a real brother. Fenwick was the first and only colonizer to safe-guard the future of the innocent Indians by protecting them with the right of staying as long as they wished on the land which they had sold.

It was in 1683 that John Fenwick died. He left a long will. He must have been a sick man, growing weaker as he dictated his wishes to be carried out after his death. The reason we think the above statement is true is because he signed each page of his will and the signature grew weaker and more feebly written as they progressed towards the final page. Very close to his heart must have been the thought of a new town which he had been looking forward to establishing. We read in the will "My will is that my execeutors shall likewise there after set fourth the Towne of Chohanzicke". In another part of his will he refers to this new town as being on a neck of land lying upon the Cesarea River. It was here that he visualized a "Mannor House" should be erected. The name that Fenwick suggested for the new town

was changed to Greenwich by the settlers who eventually came from New England and brought the name as well as themselves from their former home.

In Fenwick's will we find, "I give and my mind is that Martha Smith, my Christian friend to have a ten acre lot in the town of new Salem and two lots of land at Chohansick at the town intended on the River Cesaria".

Eight years before this will was made, John Fenwick had been in jail in England because he professed the belief of George Fox and was a Quaker. The jails were horrible beyond description in the days of Charles the First and Second.

During the months that Fenwick was in prison, Martha Smith had taken him food and the things to make him comfortable. After all these years he had not forgotten a kindness and he refers to Martha Smith as his "Christian friend" and leaves her two lots in the new town he had planned. Perchance I am particularly interested in Martha. She was the wife of John Smith. They came over with Fenwick. They were my ancestors. Also I like to think that, hovering over the founding of this little ancient village, is the remembrance of a kindness shown many years before.

The neck of land where the town was laid out was a peninsula with the Cohansey River flowing at its feet. The Greate Street was surveyed in the fall and winter of 1683, for the first lot was sold on February 18, 1684, to Mark Reeve. The said lot to lay on Cohansey River. The street started at the banks of the river. It was about two and a half miles long. Undoubtedly it followed the Indian paths. It was one hundred feet wide to the first bend, ninety feet wide to the second bend and eighty feet wide to the Pine Mount Run where the Presbyterian Church now stands.

William Penn was one of Fenwick's executors. He could not have been present when the street was laid out because at that date he was in England but, undoubtedly, he previously had sailed up the Cohansey River, had looked upon the fertile land and had agreed with Fenwick the desirability of establishing here a "Mannor" town.

The world at this time was full of unrest and religious intolerance. There was witchcraft with its unfortunate results. In New England the Puritans were cutting off the ears of the Quakers and even hanging them because they refused to agree to the Pilgrim doctrine. In this newly planned town in the year 1684 peace and religious tolerance reigned. Near the wharf, a Quaker, Marke Reeve, bought a lot on the north side of the Greate Street. On the opposite corner, Thomas Watson, a Baptist, bought a lot. They were friends. Marke Reeve married and one of the first names on his wedding certificate was Thomas Watson, his neighbor.

Farther up the street lived Nicholas Gibbon, an Episcopalian.

Gibbon gave several acres of ground that the Presbyterians might have a parsonage, while Benjamin Bacon, a Quaker, gave an acre of ground at the end of the street to the Presbyterians for their use until the end of the world.

Where will anyone find more religious tolerance and peaceful co-operation than was exhibited in this tiny spot in the new world centuries ago.

It was in 1725 that a man, Zachariah Barrow, died. He lived about half way up the Greate Street. He, like Fenwick, made a will. It is an equally intriguing document. He left all he possessed that the poor children in this little new town might have a free school forever.

This was an unusual will in 1725. If a child learned to read and write they had to pay for the privilege of learning. Money was scarce and distances long to reach a school master.

You would be interested in Zachariah Barrow's inventory of the things he owned in his home. He had little. A few sheets and pillow cases, a small amount of furniture and a mare running in the woods. At the end of the list there is mentioned "one book." At once you feel that this man wanted the poor children of Greenwich to have the things that he had desired but was not able to possess. Loving thought for others is another of the foundation stones of our old village.

In 1715 the inhabitants of this locality were refusing to pay taxes. There is a list of forty men. The Englishman who had control of West Jersey wrote to the Governor and said, "I think they are only a group of New Englanders filled with unrest." They **had** been filled with unrest for many years. These men were unhappy in England and, driven by a restless spirit, they had sailed across an unfriendly sea to an unknown and untried world, seeking for that which they craved. They had landed in New England, where the same religious intolerance reigned from which they had fled. Slowly these men and their families had drifted down the coast line of the new America. They had touched Rhode Island, Long Island, and the northern part of New Jersey. Many of these men were mariners, sailing in their vessels looking for a land that they could call home. Yes, they were individuals filled with unrest. In this place where the Cohansey flows swiftly to the sea they must have found that for which they sought for, after two and a half centuries, the descendants of these men still remain in Greenwich and the surrounding country. They had found the long desired plenty and the fulfilment of their dreams in this land of peace.

By SARAH SHEPPARD HANCOCK

Cloverland Farms

Mrs. Howard Busby Hancock

Bridgeton, New Jersey, R. D. 2

July 15th 1951

Dear Dr. Robinson:-

Enclosed you
will find a few notes
about "Benoni Dare". I
regret I cannot add
more about the other
two names you mention.

There was a
Chapman came from
Greenwich in whom I have
always been much
interested. - Audren Hunter.
He married Amy Stockton

from Princeton. Andrew
Hunter was the
minister in our old
Pres. Church. His nephew
Andrew was the Chaplain
our - the elder minister
was exceedingly patriotic.
— They had no children.

I am so sorry to
learn Laurence Seekgood
is not well. I am
wondering about his
sister Madeline. I,
now, have three grandsons.
The oldest one will go
to George School after one

more year in Grammar
School. The record one
will be eleven tomorrow.

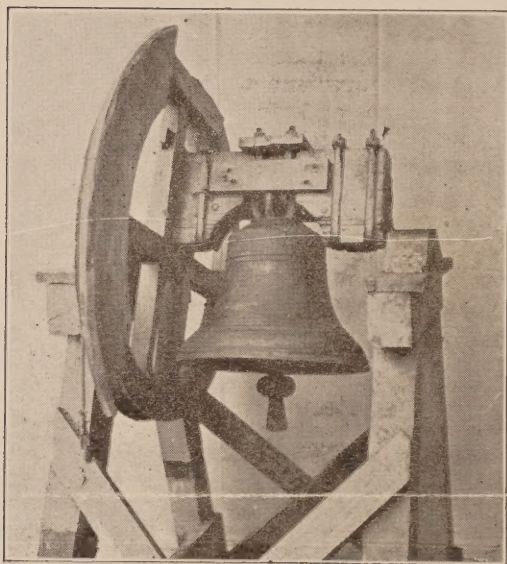
The enclosed are
very rough notes I
gathered as I was
hustling today in our
Historical Home in Greenwich.

We would enjoy welcoming
you there. The place is
open in Greenwich each
Wed. and Sunday from
2-5—

Best wishes always
Sarah Shepley Hancock.

Mrs. Howard Busby Hancock
Cloverland Farms Bridgeton, New Jersey, R. D. 2

Bridgeton's
Liberty Bell



IN COURT HOUSE
BRIDGETON, N. J.

Our Liberty Bell

In the main corridor of the Cumberland County Court House in Bridgeton, New Jersey, enclosed in a glass sided case, with suitable inscriptions, is Bridgeton's Liberty Bell, with its original hanging and bell-rope wheel. It is there displayed by the Cumberland County Historical Society, that every person passing it may say a little prayer of thanksgiving for the liberty that you and I now enjoy in this, the most nearly perfect Republic that has ever existed and truly "a government of the people, by the people and for the people, with liberty and justice toward all."

Bells were used to call people together for worship, or to hear some important news. Such a use of this bell was made in 1776, when the first courier, probably on horse-back, arrived from Philadelphia to report that the Declaration of Independence had been signed by our representatives there assembled.

That bell, which then sounded its joyous notes, was hanging in the cupola of a brick court house, which stood in the middle of Broad street in Bridgeton. The bell had been the gift of the citizens of that town.

The bell, according to inscriptions there on, was cast in 1763 in Bridgewater, usually supposed to be a town by that name in Massachusetts, though some bells were then made in England for shipment to their American Province.

This liberty bell seems to have remained in use on that court house, always joining in the celebration of the Fourth of July, until a new brick court house was built in 1844 on the south side of Broad street, where the present court house now stands. When the West Jersey Academy building was erected in 1852, our Liberty Bell found a place in the belfry of their brown, sandstone building where it was used to announce the school hours. That academy building was later acquired and used by the Bridgeton Board of Education, with our Liberty Bell still in their belfry. This was in about 1923.

It was then also that the Greenwich Tea Burning Chapter of the National Society D.A.R. bought and had placed in the main corridor of the academy building the bronze tablet, giving many of the facts written above. This tablet is now on the case holding the bell.

When the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence was celebrated by an exposition in Philadelphia, Bridgeton's Liberty Bell was there displayed, a special guard being assigned to look after this valuable relic.

The bell was entrusted to the care of the Cumberland County Historical Society in 1929; and, in more recent years was given a place in the main corridor of the present court house.

WILLIAM C. MULFORD